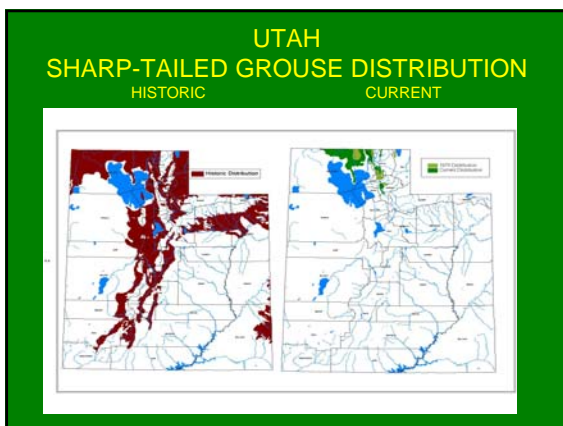




BACKGROUND

- **Columbian Sharp-tailed grouse are:**
 - Native to Utah, Columbian is 1 of 7 subspecies
 - Linked to sage-brush/bunchgrass communities
 - Currently limited to Northern Utah
 - Locally stable to slightly increasing in abundance
 - Categorized as a Utah “sensitive species”
 - Currently petitioned for a range wide ESA status review
 - Hunted on a limited area and permit basis in Utah



LONG TERM MGT INTENT

- **Protect and manage sharp-tailed grouse consistent with:**
 - DWR mission and goals
 - DWR Wildlife Action Plan
 - DWR sharp-tailed grouse management plan (2002)
- **Conduct conservation actions that will preclude ESA “listing” decisions through:**
 - Continued population and habitat monitoring and management
 - Habitat improvement
 - Protecting and enhancing existing populations
 - **Reintroducing sharp-tailed grouse into suitable habitat within the species’ former Utah distribution**

TWO SHARP-TAIL PROPOSALS

- Present a transplant list that will guide future statewide reintroduction activity
 - Compliance with Utah code 23-14-21 for sensitive species
- Present the first proposed reintroduction effort with the Antelope Island project

TRANSPLANT LIST

- Region developed (former range, habitat)
- Includes areas of 16 counties, 4 currently inhabited by sharp-tailed grouse
- Specific projects will be developed within the final approved list
- Propose 10-year approval due to anticipated slow progress
 - Limited source stock availability
 - Local coordination

ANTELOPE ISLAND PROJECT

- Cooperative venture
- Up to 60 birds - Box Elder County
- Fall and Spring releases
- 2009 - 2011
- Radio and monitor
- Intent
 - New population
 - Extend distribution
 - Develop techniques



THANK YOU

